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By the Lords Justices,

A PROCLAMATION.

The Cantuar. J. Sommers C. Devonshire, Sunderland, Romney.

WHereas there was an Act made the Last Session of Parliament, Intituled, An Act to Enforce the Act for the Increase and Encouragement of Seamen; *To the end therefore that all Seamen and other Persons concerned in the said Act may be Informed of the Matters therein contained, We have thought fit, by the Advice of His Majesty's Privy Council, to Issue this Proclamation, hereby giving Notice, That in the said Act it is (amongst other things) Enacted, That such Registred Seamen, who by Age, Wounds, or other Accidents, shall be Disabled for future Service at Sea, and the Widows and Children of such Seamen, as by Virtue of an Act made at a Session of Parliament held in the Seventh and Eighth Years of His Majesty's Reign, Entituled,* An Act for the Increase and Encouragement of Seamen, *may Claim the Relief of* Greenwich *Hospital, shall, for the avoiding of all Partiality and Favour, from time to time, in Succession one after another, be Admitted into the said Hospital in Order and due Course, according to their number on the Register Book. Also for the Ease of Seamen desirous to be Registred, they shall be obliged to bring or cause to be brought to the Register Officer, Certificates of the Place of their Abode, or Removal from their Habitation, under the Hands of only One or more Justices of the Peace of the Place or County where they Dwell. And that for the better Levying and Collecting the Duties of Six Pence per Mensem, Granted by the said last Recited Act, for the Revenues and Support of the Hospital Chamber, and Bounties therein mentioned, the Officers appointed for the Registring Seamen, or their Deputies, may by Warrant under their Hands, Summon to Appear before them all Masters of any Ships, and Vessels which are not in His Majesty's Service, and Examine them upon Oath concerning their Seamens Wages, and time of Service; And if such Masters shall Refuse to Appear on the said Summons, or shall Appear and Refuse to give the said Accounts upon Oath, of their Seamens Wages, and time of Service, then such Offender shall for every such Offence Forfeit Ten Pounds, for the Use of the said Hospital, to be Recovered with Charges of Suit in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, as is mentioned in the said Act, excepting Quakers or Reputed Quakers, who are thereby required to give in the said Accounts on their Solemn Affirmation and Declaration, in such manner as by an Act made at a Session of Parliament held in the Seventh and Eighth Years of His Majesty's Reign, Intituled,* An Act that the Solemn Affirmation and Declaration of the People called Quakers shall be Accepted instead of an Oath in the usual Form, *is directed, and on their Refusal so to do, to be liable to the aforesaid Penalties. And that such Registred Seamen as shall Lend or Dispose of their Certificates to any other Persons to Protect them from being Impress into His Majesty's Service, shall be struck out of the Register, and be Obliged to Serve His Majesty at Sea for the space of Six Months without any Pay or Wages, as in Case of Registred Men not Appearing on Summons to Serve in His Majesty's Service, according to the said last Recited Act; And such Men as shall Procure, Keep, or Use the said Certificates for the said Purpose, shall forfeit Twenty Pounds, or Serve His Majesty in Sea Service Six Months, without any Pay or Wages. And also that the Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Bailiffs, or Deputy Bailiffs of any of the Towns within the Jurisdiction of the Cinque Ports, where no Justice of the Peace shall be Residing or Inhabiting within Three Miles of such Port or Place, may Certifie the Abode of Persons to be Registred, instead of the said Justices of the Peace.*

Given at the Court at *Whitehall*, the Twenty Seventh Day of *May*, 1697. In the Ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

Warsaw, May 19. *N. S.* The Breaking of the Confederacy of the Army (to which the Queen Dowager has very much contributed by her Money, and the Crown-General by his Prudence and Interest) does much encourage the Friends of Prince *James*, who have now greater hopes than ever of his obtaining the Crown: There appears likewise a favourable disposition towards him in the Generality of the Gentry; who are like to have the greatest share in the Election, and the Treatment the Primate and other Great Men, Favourers of the French, have already met with from the Gentry who are arrived here, lets them see what they may expect, when they are all come together. The Gentry of *Poland* and *Lithuania* are now within two or three days march of this place, and the rest are not much further off, commanded by their respective Palatins; Their numbers are much greater than came to the Election of King *Michael Wisnowitski* in 1679, which was the last time (before this) they all appeared on Horseback in this manner, and 'twill be a very difficult matter to find Provisions for them long, so that there will be a necessity to hasten the Election, which by the Constitution of the Kingdom is to be made within 6 weeks at farthest: The Diet, which is composed of Deputies chosen by the several Provinces, and who meet in a place built of Wood for this purpose, while the Gentry are encamped round it, in a very spacious Plain, have been assembled several times, but have not yet chosen their Marshal or Speaker; This being a Point much contended by the several Parties.

Vienna, May 22. Great Preparations are made for the Campaign in *Hungary*; Magazines are provided at *Buda* and other Places; a very fine Train of Artillery is prepared; The General Officers are hastning away; and the Elector of *Saxony* will repair very suddenly to the Army, tho' it's thought he will first go to *Dresden* for a few days, to dispatch some Affairs that require his Presence there. The Young Duke of *Lorrain* intends to go the next week to the Confederate Army on the *Rhine*, to make the Campaign there. The advices from *Croatia* continue to speak of a design to Besiege *Sirhet*, a place of Consequence on the Frontiers of that Country, and they tell us, That 600 Horse have been sent with an Ingenier to view its Situation. The Turks make great Provision at *Temeswar* of all things necessary for their Defence; The last Letters from those Parts tell us, That a Body of 3000 Men had conducted thither several hundred laden Wagons and Camels; and that they are adding several new Works to the Fortifications of the Place. A Party of that Garison made lately an Incursion, and upon advice of it, 200 Hussars were sent from *Jena*, who at first repulsed the Enemy, but pursuing them too far, fell into an Ambush, and lost about 60 of their Men. Six hundred of the Garison of *Caransebes* have passed the *Danube*, and made an Incursion towards *Nissa*, but we have yet no account of the Success they have had.

Francfort, May 30. The Main Body of the Confederate Forces lies at *Eppingen*; and there are two other small Camps at *Sintzheim* and *Durmentz*; It's believed they will join together in few days. The Forces of *Hesse*, who were Encamped near *Mentz*, march towards *Flanders*, as do likewise the Troops of *Luxemburgh* and *Munster*. The French Army lies near *Landaw*, and we hear the Mareschal *de Choiseul* is arrived there.

Cologne, May 31. The Elector *Palatin* intends to take a review of his Troops on Monday next; after which they will march to Prince *Lewis*'s Army. The Forces of *Luxemburgh* have passed by *Limburgh* on the *Laen* in their march towards *Flanders*; And the Troops of *Hesse* and *Munster* are likewise coming this way from the Neighbourhood of *Mentz* and *Coblentz*.

Hamburgh, May 31. The King of *Denmark* is come to *Holstein*, and was yesterday at *Itzehoe*, where he intends to stay a few days to review the Troops quartered thereabouts. The last Letters from *Stockholme*, which are of the 21th Instant, say, the Fire which broke out the 17th in the Afternoon had not only reduced the King's Palace, but great Part of the Town, to a heap of Ruins; and